Polio in Bihar

†2035. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 64 cases of polio came to light in the country in the year 2005 and out of which 30 were from Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that polio virus spread to Mumbai, Punjab, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Nepal from Bihar in the year 2004; and

(c) if so, the steps Government are taking for paying special attention to Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The virus spread from Bihar to Uttar Pradesh and Nepal in 2004 and during 2005, to Uttar Pradesh, Mumbai, Punjab, Jharkhand, Gujarat and Nepal.

(c) The steps taken include:

(1) Using various specific vaccines (monovalant vaccines) to stop circulation of the specific type of polio virus.

(2) Initiation of special moves to track newborns to immunize them.

(3) Initiation of enhanced efforts to immunize children in transit and routine immunization coverage to reach each and every child.

(4) Increased manpower deployment in the form of Rapid Response Team to support planning, implementation and monitoring of polio campaigns.

Dietary supplements and medical devices under Drugs and Cosmetics Act

2036. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any suggestions to bring dietary supplements and medical devices under the purview of the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, for effective monitoring of their quality and prices; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.